

HOUSE of the SUN

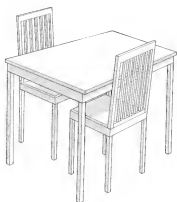


Taamo

HOUSE of the SUN



by Taamo





-----Story 1-----

The Lonely Girl and the Lonely Boy



-----Story 2-----

The Start of Their Lonely Journey Together



-----Story 3-----

April Fireworks



-----Story 4-----

The Girl's Rebellion





The Lonely Girl and the Lonely Boy



Nice to meet you. My name is Taamo.
Thank you for purchasing *House of the Sun*!
I've given my all to drawing this eighth-grade
tomboy and this nurturing young man.

Thank you for reading!

-Taamo

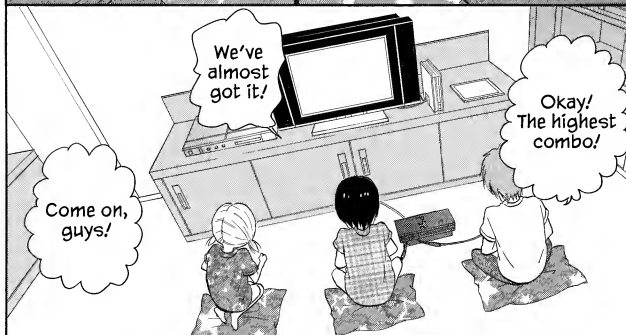
This used to be a magical house, where I would end up laughing even if I went there crying. I always believed there had to be a magic spell on that house.





Heal
me up!

Come on!
Get that
combo!



We've
almost
got it!

Come on,
guys!

Okay!
The highest
combo!



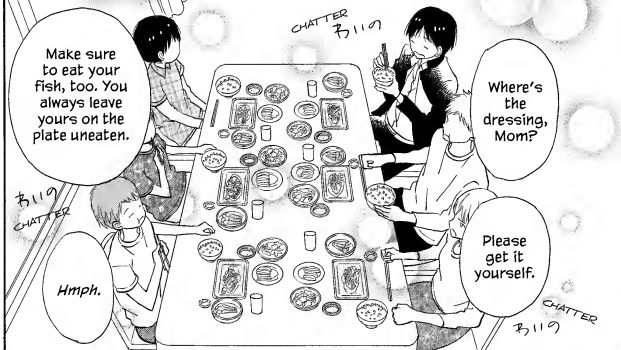
Ouch!

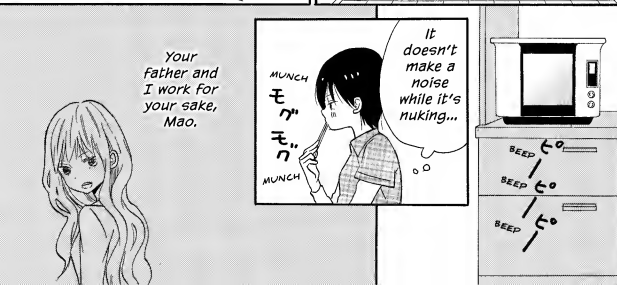
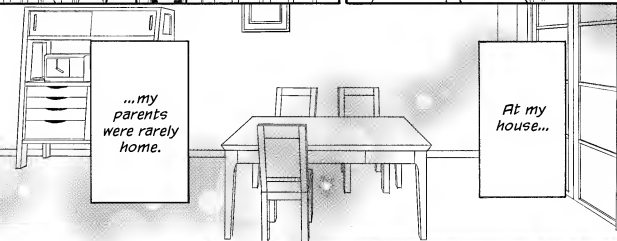
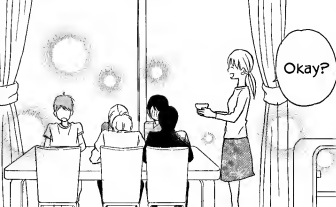
Ouch!

I'm
gonna
use my
skills!











That's right.
Mom and
Dad have
to work for
my sake.





Oh,
you can't
come in.

What's
wrong?



...
I'm
sorry.



But I'm
pretty sure...



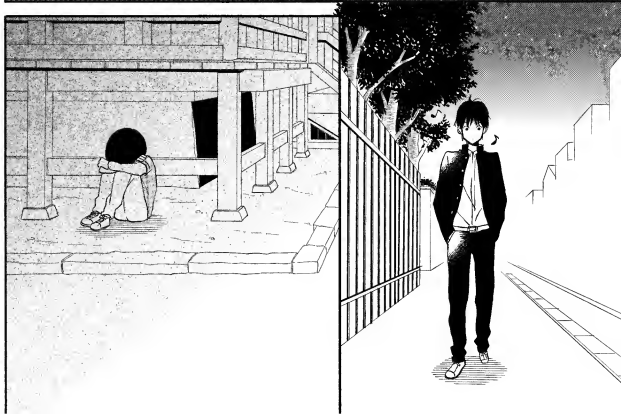
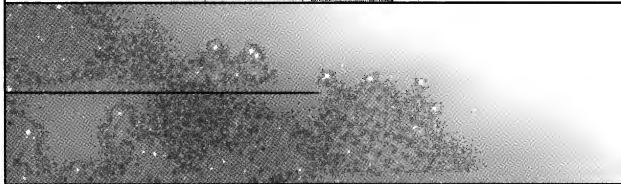
...I
shouldn't ask.

This
man is...

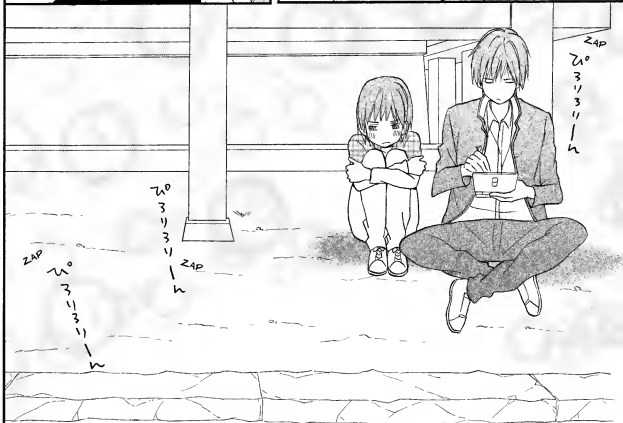
Who's that?



That's not Dad.









He
feels
warm...



...are
getting a
divorce.

My mom
and dad...



No matter
who I
choose,
we'll be
leaving the
house right
away.



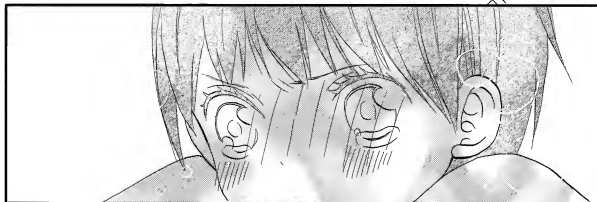
So they
asked me
to choose
who I'll live
with.



How about
you come live
at our house
instead of
choosing?



Sigh.



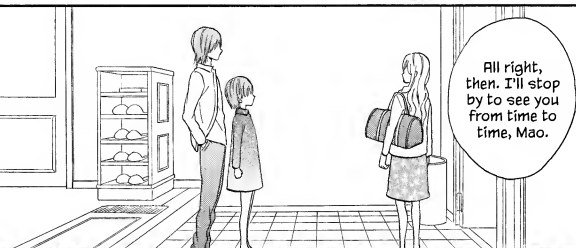
I can't
do that,
you idiot!

*When he
said those
words...*

*...the truth is,
I felt really
happy.*

*...and just
kept looking
down.*

*I held back
on saying
"thank you,"
though...*



*...I chose to
stay with my
dad, whom I'd
hardly ever
said a word to.*

*In the end,
rather than
go with my
mom and that
stranger...*

*I always
felt sorry
for myself
and wished
I could live
with them.*



*My dad and
I moved two
train stations
away, but I
still ended
up going to
the Nakamura
house even
more than
before.*

I ended up paying for it, though.

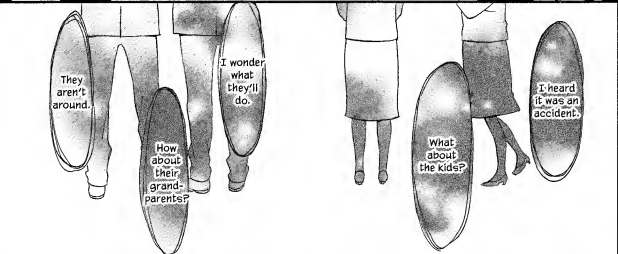
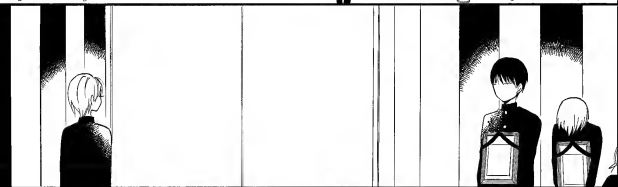
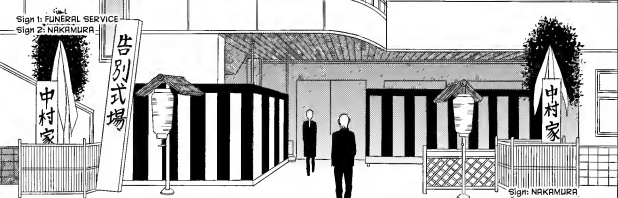


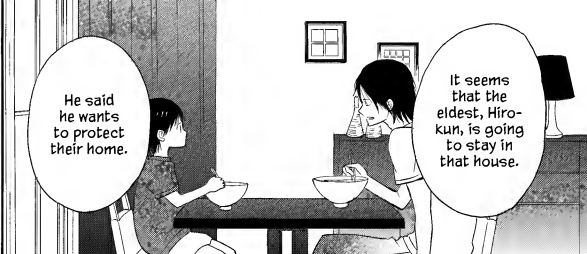
*Mao-chan,
you can
come
play here
anytime.*

*...without
any warning.*



*The mom and dad
passed away...*





He said
he wants
to protect
their home.

It seems
that the
eldest, Hiro-
kun, is going
to stay in
that house.



The two
younger
kids will be
taken in by
relatives.



*This is the last
memorable
conversation I
had with my dad.*

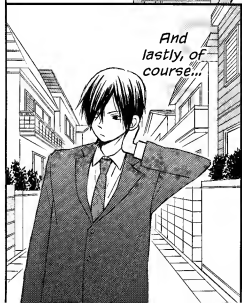
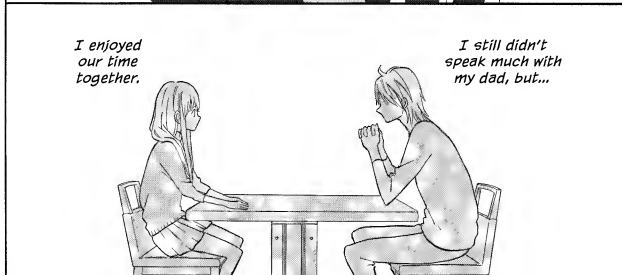
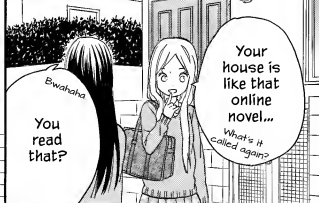


They'll all be
separated.
It's sad.

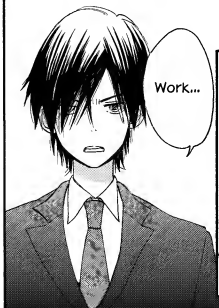


ACHOO!









Work...

I said be quiet! You still have to work, don't you?! Hurry up and get back to work!



ARGH

Don't tell me to be quiet! As a girl, you should be more tactful!

ARGH



Ouch!

You're a piece of work! You really are!

Work hard, okay?

Hch heh. So annoying!

Right... I have another meeting to go to now.



Still, I don't mind having him touch my head...

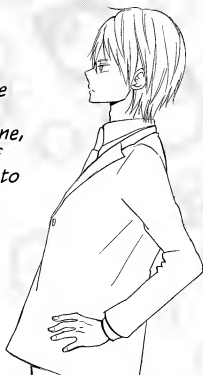


You get what you deserve.

My hair's a mess now!

I would never dare say that I worry about him living alone, yet I find myself occasionally going to check in on him.

For some reason, I can't help but wonder about this guy.



Do you see this happy face?

What is it?

What's that smirk for?



SMIRK
SMIRK
SMIRK
SMIRK
SMIRK
SMIRK

Come celebrate with us! I'm gonna bake a cake.

You should be happier.

Cool.

Hurray!
Hurray!

Take it in!
My little sister is coming home!



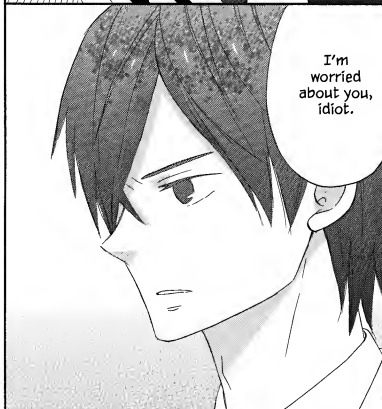


So,
Magyo,
you've
got a new
mom now,
right?



There
you go,
mouthing
off
again...!

I hate
sweets!
And who the
hell bakes
a cake,
gross!



I'm
worried
about you,
idiot.



It's none
of your
business!



I'm
fine.

I'm
different
from you.



...

See
you
later!

You!

☆

So I
got
back
pretty
late...

I
didn't
really
want
to go
home.



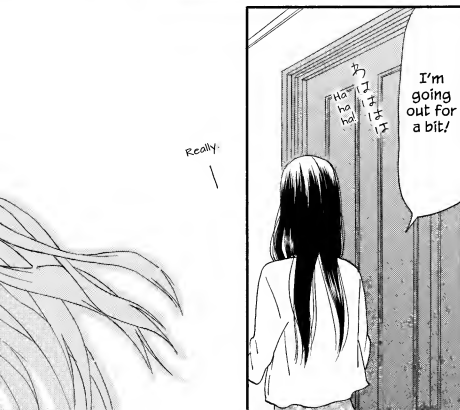
All right...

...









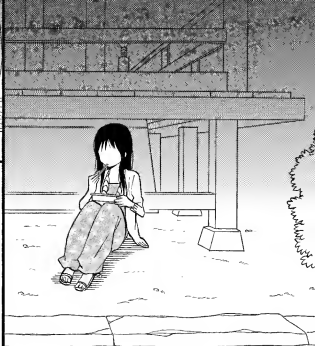


Food,
from the
convenience
store...



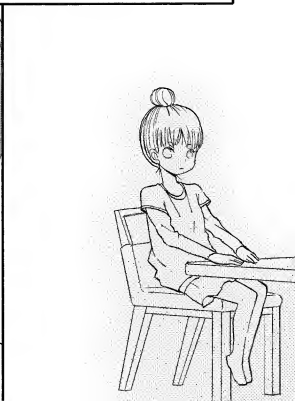
...good.

...isn't
really...



...it hurts.

But I'm so
hungry...



...I'm
about
to cry.

Oh, I
think...

It
hurts.

I can't
taste
anything.

My
throat is
tightening
up.

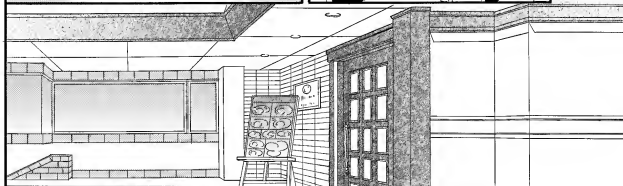
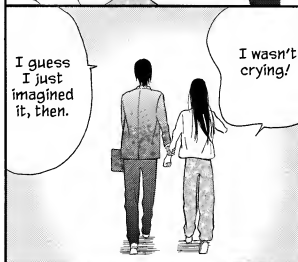
Magyo?

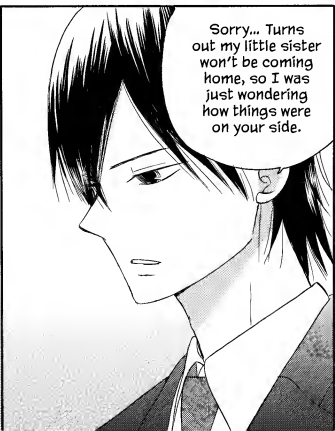
What
are you
doing?

All right,
let's go!

...

...





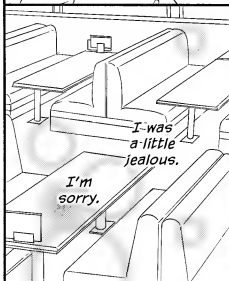


He was so excited when he told me she was coming home.



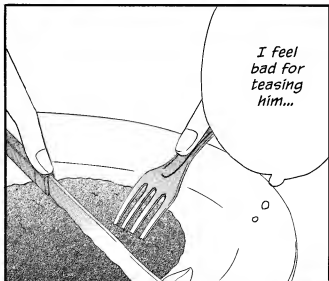
What do you mean?

You've been acting strange today.



I was a little jealous.

I'm sorry.



I feel bad for teasing him...



...is really delicious.

Oh...

This hamburger...

I was always nervous when I ate here, so I didn't really get the full flavor...

It really is.

*It's
delicious.*





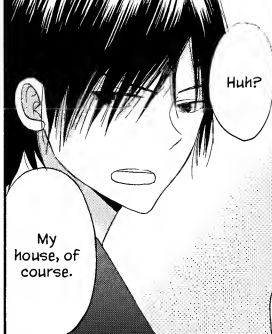


...to go
home
to.

There's
nowhere
for me...



Then let's
go home
together,
okay?



My house, of course.



Where?



What are you saying?! I don't get it! And you're gross!

Are you just saying that to amuse yourself?!



I'll take care of telling your dad.



Wait!
I'll go!

5, 4, 3, 2...

So what do you want to do? Are you gonna come or not?



You
don't
have to
tell me!

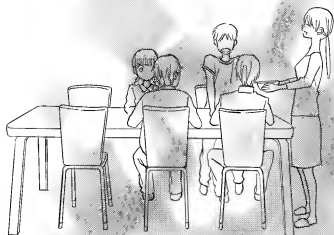


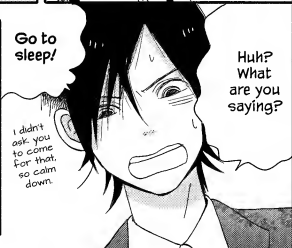
Get
inside
already!



I cleaned
my sister's
room, so
you can
use it.







*I didn't really
understand what
happened...*

But...

TMP 11"
A
11"
A
TMP 11"
A
TMP A

Thank
you!

Good
night!

*It smells like
sunshine.*

...

Today...

But...





I didn't have a home anymore.

*There was nowhere for me
to call my own. No one was
waiting for me, and I was no
longer important to anyone.*



SHAKE SHAKE SHAKE

3"3 3"3 3"3 3"3

Today's
post was
really
good!

Crap...
I
almost
started
crying.

I'll send
her a
comment
when I
get home
today.

Solami-
san's words
pierce
me like a
needle.

#1111
SERIOUS

...!

I went to
Okinawa the
other day.
Here's a
souvenir.

Please
take it.

Yes?

Nakamura-
san.



I'm so happy...!

Just "thank you"?



Hiro Nakamura.

What an odd gift, though...

Is this a joke?



Oh, thank you.



My only solaces at work are...

New programmer, 23 years old.

The House of the Sun by Solami-san.

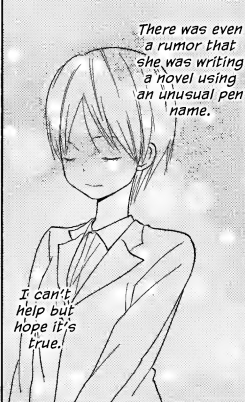
I got hooked on the online novel after coming across it at work.

It's embarrassing so I'll keep it a secret.

...this online novel.

...Sugimoto-san's smile and...





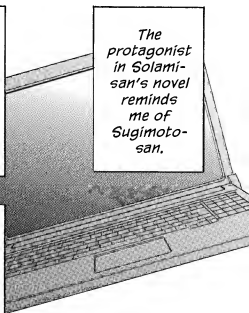
There was even a rumor that she was writing a novel using an unusual pen name.

I can't help but hope it's true.

I secretly think that Sugimoto-san might be Solami.

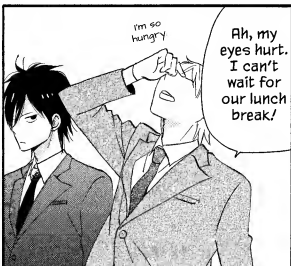
The protagonist in Solami-san's novel reminds me of Sugimoto-san.

That would be pretty cool.



I ate a ton.

I had company for breakfast today, so I'm not that hungry yet.



I'm so hungry

Ah, my eyes hurt. I can't wait for our lunch break!



Oh!

Never mind.

But my sister...



That's great.

Oh? So your sister moved back home, after all!

My
sister
is...

Yeah,
she's
excited

How
nice she
must be

She's
super
annoying.

Just
really
noisy, you
know?

My
sister...

I got
carried away
and ended
up taking
in a high
school girl.

How Hiro is actually
feeling right now

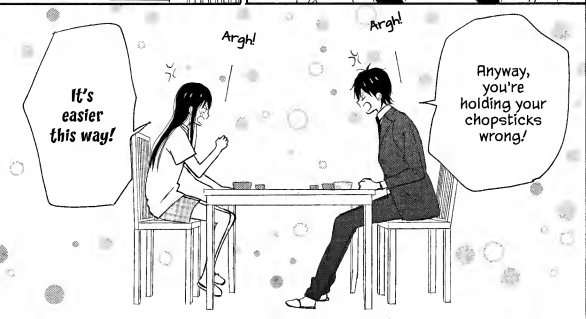
Mao!

Also...

There's
no way I
could just
let her be.

Well, she's
always been
around
and feels
like family,
after all.

TAP
TAP
TAP

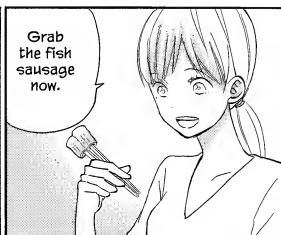


*Let's learn
how to hold
chopsticks
properly.*

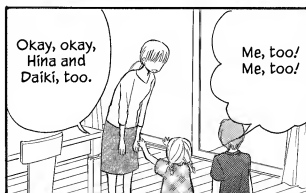
*Hiro, you're
about to
start middle
school.*



Try
eating
it.



Grab
the fish
sausage
now.



Okay, okay,
Hina and
Daiki, too.



Me, too!
Me, too!



See,
you can
do it!



I'm
sorry.



Oh...

We're eating
dinner with Dad
tonight, so I
want to hold
my chopsticks
properly!

So he didn't come home much.

Before we lived in this house, we lived in a house that was far away from Dad's workplace.

We'll have dinner together another time.

Dad won't be able to make it home tonight.



Hina, I'll make you cream puffs, so don't cry, okay?

Ha ha ha!

sob, sob...

No way!

What? No way! No! No!



I think he was lonely.

My brother Daiki didn't talk much except when he played video games.

My sister Hina stopped crying when I made her sweets.



*I got good
grades and
watched
over my
siblings.*

*I was a
pretty
good kid.*

*As for
me...*



I'm
home!



Dad said
he can't
make it again
tonight.



Oh,
welcome
back.



I want all
of us to
move away
from here.

Mom...
I...

*And
the most
important.*

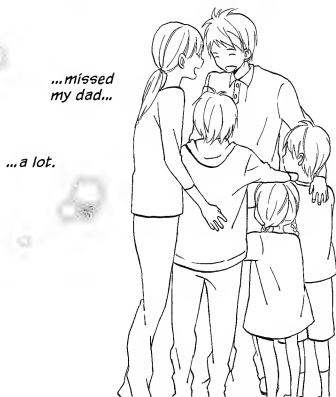
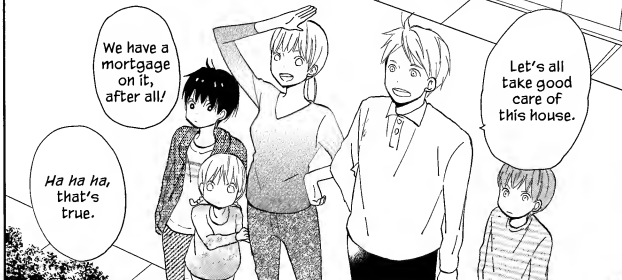
*...I ever
said.*

*...the
most
selfish
thing...*

*This was
probably...*

*That's the
house I
live in now.*

*My parents
somehow
managed
to build a
house close
to my dad's
workplace.*



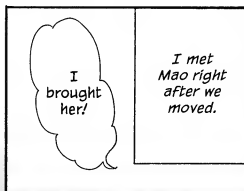
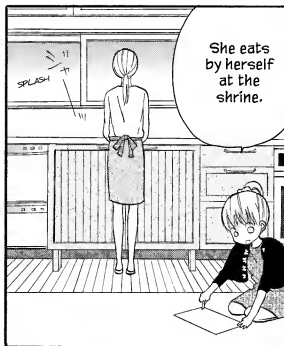
...missed
my dad...

...a lot.

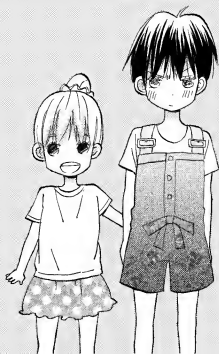
I was happy.

The truth is...

...I had also...



That was my first impression of Mao.



"A girl holding back tears."



Mao!

Magyo?



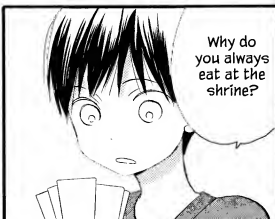
It's written with the characters for "truth" and "fish."

Mao.



I thought the god might be lonely all by himself.

Because I heard there's a god there.



Why do you always eat at the shrine?



Dinner's ready.

Huh?



They work hard for my sake, so they aren't home much.

Huh? What about your family?

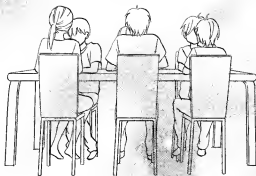


They're really important.



*Before I
knew it, it
felt like we
were family.*

*After that,
Mao just kind
of tumbled
into our lives.*





*I asked
them, and
we made a
promise.*

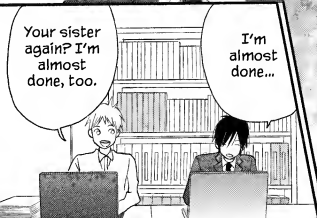
*That's
right.*

*I want to
see everyone
smiling in this
house again.*





*So even
though our
parents
died and
we all got
separated...*



Your sister
again? I'm
almost
done, too.

I'm
almost
done...



That's
right.

My
sister...

ugh, my
eyes hurt.



It's
always
been that
way.

She doesn't
really get
along well
with her dad.

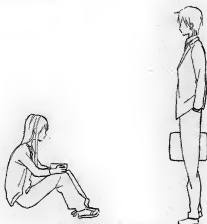
*There's no
way I'd
ever leave
this house.*





...of when
she used to
eat alone at
the shrine.

Seeing her
like that
reminded
me...



I noticed
how she
smiled again.

That's why
I ended up
inviting her to
my place like
the old days.





Oh, she must not have eaten yet. She must be hungry.



My sister texted me that there were no clean towels... I wonder if she found one.

タタタ
RATTLE

フidget
フidget

タタタ
RATTLE



No way!

ぱっ
FWIP



Huh?!

You keep complaining, but you're smiling. Having your sister around really makes you happy, huh?



タタタ
RATTLE

RATTLE

タタタ...

*...but there's
something
fun about it.*

*People
may
misunder-
stand...*

*...being
able to
care for
someone.*

*It's true
that it's
kind of
fun...*

*I'm buying
way more
cream puffs
than usual.*

*That's
definitely
fun.*

*I'll take ten,
actually!*

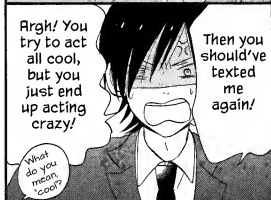
Oh!

*When I
thought Hina
was coming
back...*

*...I got
carried
away
preparing
her room.*

*Three
cream
puffs,
please.*







I'll go home.



You're going back tonight, right?

Then take these back to your house.



Me, lonely?



But if you're gonna be lonely, I can stay.



Just a little.

Yeah, I'm lonely.







Today,
I'll...

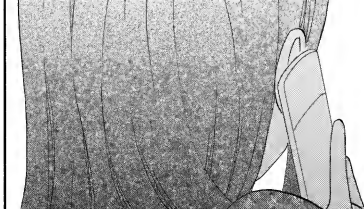
*You like
it at the
Nakamura
house?*

*You've
always
liked it
over there.*



*Since you like
it so much,
there's no
need for you
to come home.*





I'm fine.

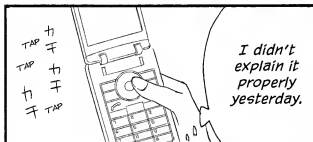
I'll go grab my bag.

Hey.

What's wrong, Mao?



?



I didn't explain it properly yesterday.



Now, what should I say to him...

I guess an explanation wouldn't make a difference...



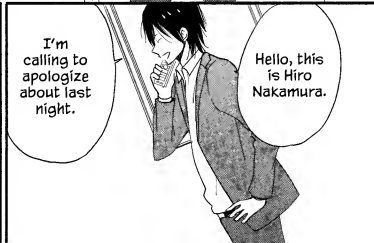
Her dad must be angry, after all.

Mao is acting strange.



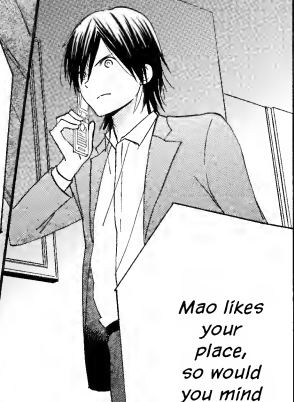
Yes, of course.

Is Mao doing okay?



I'm calling to apologize about last night.

Hello, this is Hiro Nakamura.



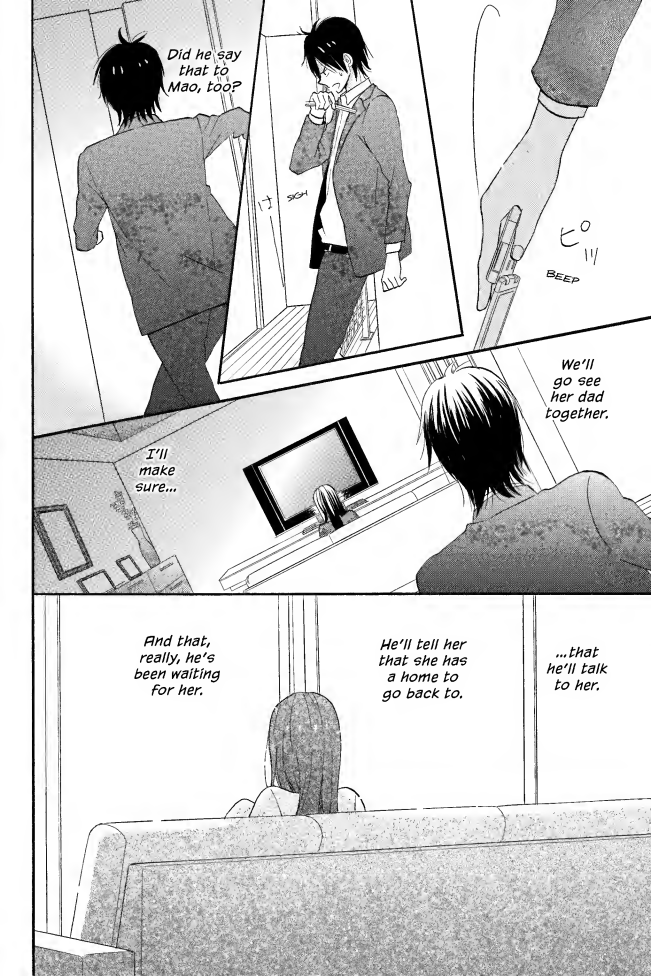
*I'll pay
you rent,
of course.*



*Mao likes
your
place,
so would
you mind
letting
her stay
there?*



*Why have you
always been
like this?!*



Did he say
that to
Mao, too?

こ
11
BEEP

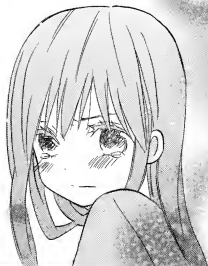
We'll
go see
her dad
together.

I'll
make
sure...

And that,
really, he's
been waiting
for her.

He'll tell her
that she has
a home to
go back to.

...that
he'll talk
to her.

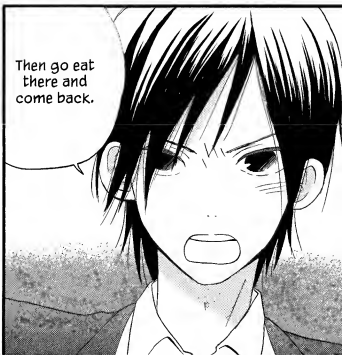


*That's
what
parents
are for.*



I want you
to stay here.

Mao.





*...Mao
returned
with a big
suitcase, her
dad in tow.*



*That
night...*

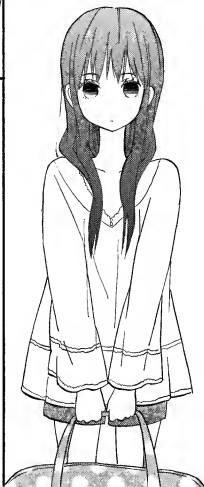
*Her dad handed
over what he
called "rent for
this month"
and left!*



*I didn't have
the guts to
yell at him.*



*It felt so natural,
as though it really
was my little sister
coming home.*





It's
"Mao"!

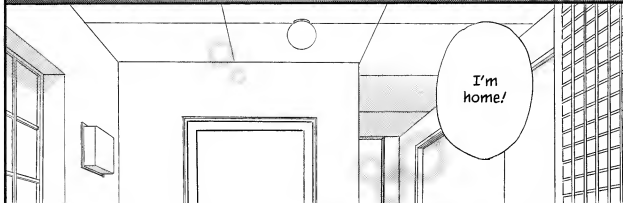
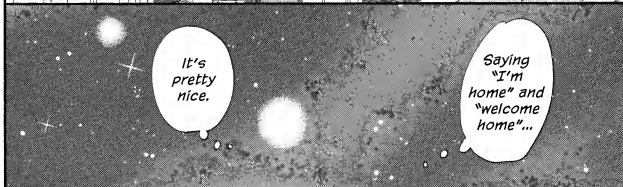


Welcome
home,
Magyo.



I'm
back.





むああ
HMPH あ

!!

...died?!

Is
Mao...
okay?

It smells
like
someone...

What's
that
horrible
smell?

WHAM

Mao!

Welcome home...

カッ!
GLOMP

Mao,
don't die!

...

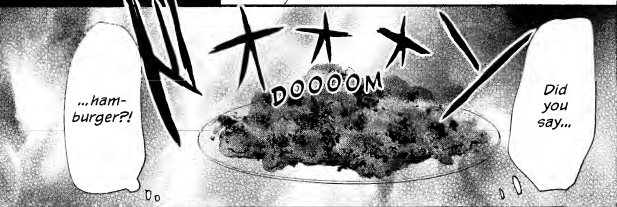
What were you doing?
What's that smell?

Thank God...!
You're okay...

No!

Hold on!
I'll take care of it.

The smell is coming from that table...



It's not my fault! It's the first time I've ever made it! Don't make that face and laugh at me!

It stinks, too.

It tastes awful.

You're a terrible cook.

Ha ha ha ha!

You scared me.

NOTES

The food I cooked was delicious. It was so good I almost cried from laughter.

ENTER



I've
decided on a
curfew.

CoM

Can't you
see my
crest?!

...

Listen to me.
Your curfew is
7:00 PM. You can
watch TV until
11:00, and lights
out is at 12:00.

If you're
gonna live in
this house, you
gotta follow
the rules.

Nooo!
Yashichi
just revealed
his identity!

Turn
off the
TV!

BZZ





Hiro's
gonna use
the same
bathwater?

か
い
し
ゅ

FWP



I thought
you didn't
care
either
way?

No
way!



COMMO

We're
conserving
water, so
that's not
allowed.

If you want
a fresh
bath, you
go in first.



Enough
with the
Mito Komon
imperi-
sonation.*

You
pervert!
I'll make
you pay!

Then
it's
decided.

I'll
go in
second!

I'll prepare
the bath,
and you
clean it up.

UGH

UGH

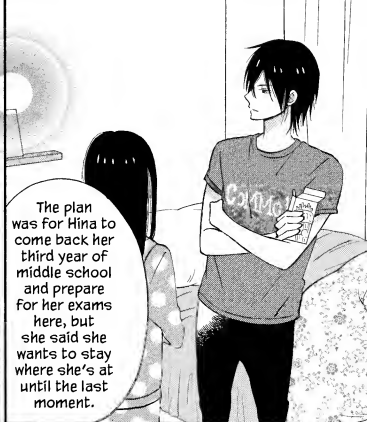
す
く
？
STAND

* Mito Komon is a
Japanese period drama.





The plan was for Hina to come back her third year of middle school and prepare for her exams here, but she said she wants to stay where she's at until the last moment.



Hiro...

I guess my siblings didn't want to live here as much as I thought.



Why on Earth would you think that?!

You'll be fine as long as you stop wanting to take a bath in a high-school girl's bathwater.



*I started living
with Hiro.*

*It's so
embarrassing.*

*Is this
how
mothers
are?*

Huh?

Time for
dinner!

*Hiro
was way
too into
household
chores.*

WHOOSH

7"
ニ

*I could
only wash
and dry my
under-
garments
on my own.*

*I wanted to
do my laundry
separately,
but it wasn't
allowed due
to water
conservation.*



I mean,
he acts
like he's
my mom,
after all.



Since
we're child-
hood friends,
almost like
family, maybe
it's not some-
thing to be
embarrassed
about.



...supposed
to be a little
overbearing?

Are
moms...



Oh, I
better
memorize
the rules.

Happy
childhood
memories...

My
curfew
is at
6:00.

Yeah, my
parents
are gonna
be mad.

My
curfew's
at 5:00,
so I gotta
go!

Everyone
eats
dinner
together.

According
to the
rules,
everyone
eats
breakfast
together.

And in the
morning,
everyone
leaves
the house
together.

We go to the
nearby shrine
to say a prayer
before school.

My first...
...curfew!

I wondered
what Hiro
was thinking.

It's not
like I served
any purpose
living here.

There were a
lot of rules about
doing things
together, but...



There's
no need
for you
to stay
home.

You're
home?

...I was
in the
way?

...feel
like...

Did he
ever...



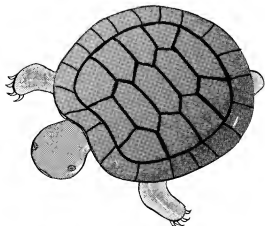
...I've
always
been in
the way.

Until
now...



ACK!

The turtle's making noise.



How rude.

It didn't crawl in here?

The green turtle's name is Wakaba-chan.



He looks so sorrowful from behind...

It's so mean of you to treat her like a cockroach or something.

She's part of our family.

Don't you agree, Wakaba-chan?

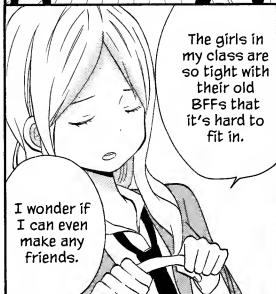
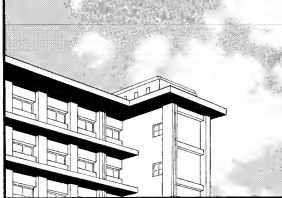
Saying sad things won't make me any happier.

Hiro, you were really lonely, huh?





Mao!



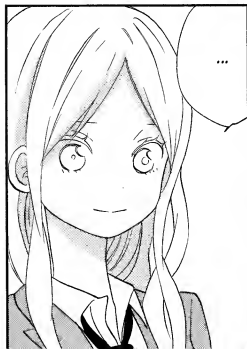
The girls in my class are so tight with their old BFFs that it's hard to fit in.

I wonder if I can even make any friends.



It's finally lunch time! Let's eat together.

Chi-chan.



...



We're friends, after all.

What's that supposed to mean?!

Of course you can!



If only all three of us could've been in the same class.

Mao, you have to make friends in your class, too...

I better try harder, huh?

It can't be just the two of us eating lunch together forever.



Hang out?

Oh, right, you two are still in the same class.



How cold. We totally hung out.



Then we could hang out like we used to.







...at all.

*I don't
know my
new mom...*

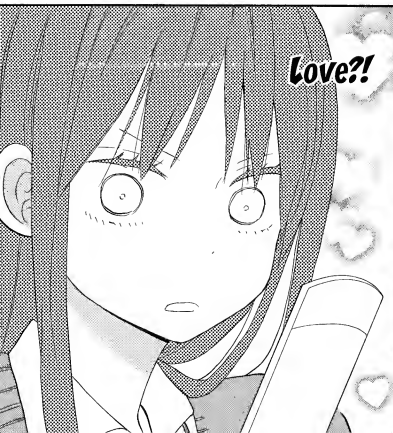
The truth is...

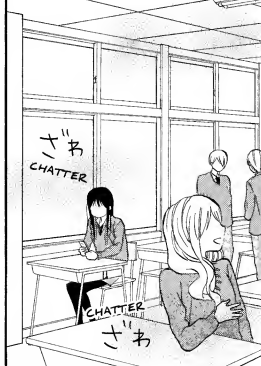
*I'm
sorry.*

I ended up moving in with my
childhood friend, Takashi. Adding
in his dog, Croquette, the three of
us are now living together... But I
wonder, am I really wanted here?



Your last update was amazing.
Your feelings touch me so deeply.
Don't you think your feelings for Takashi are love?
I have to say, I'm very curious...!









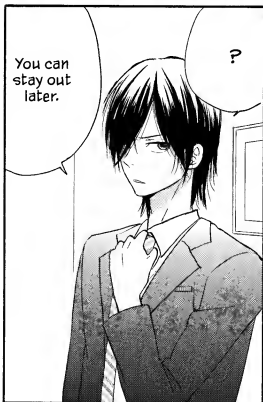
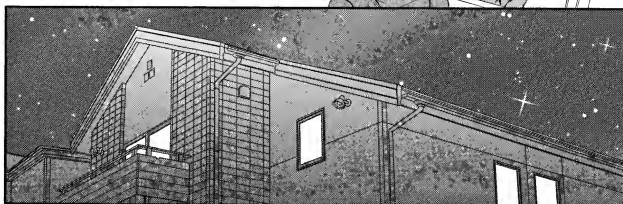
Just come with me.

Do you know anyone besides me in this class?

Why?

I hardly know you, though.

Hey!



You can stay out later.

?

I'll be back by 7:00 PM.

My class is having a fireworks party tomorrow, so I'm going.





*Is she
about to
reenact
another
period
drama?*



What?

*Are
you a
child?*

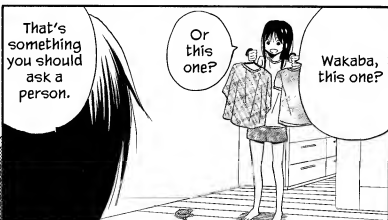
I said
I'll be
back by
curfew!

I'll be
home!

t=h
THUD
t=h
THUD?



*I'm so
happy.*



That's
something
you should
ask a
person.

Or
this
one?

Wakaba,
this one?

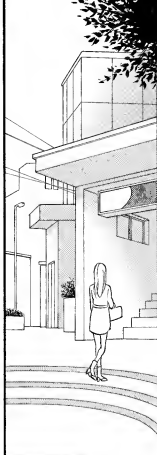


*Does a
class get-
together
make her
that happy?*

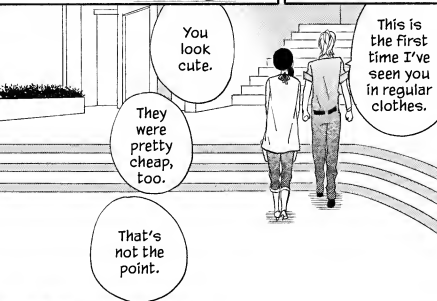
*She
seems
excited.*



Hi.



*It makes
me happy...*



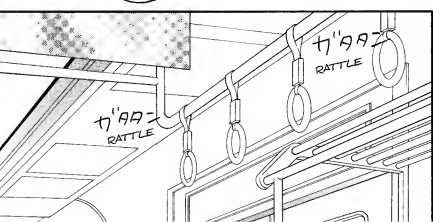
You
look
cute.

This is
the first
time I've
seen you
in regular
clothes.

They
were
pretty
cheap,
too.

That's
not the
point.

*...to have to
be back home
at 7:00 PM.*



ㄗ'AAZ
RATTLE

ㄗ'AAZ
RATTLE

A...

サ"タ"ン
RATTLE

So,
Motomiya...

...crush...

Do you
have a
crush on
someone?

...on
someone?

RATTLE
カタン

I like
Yashichi
from Mito
Komon.

RATTLE
カタン

I've never
even thought
about it.

Why is
that?

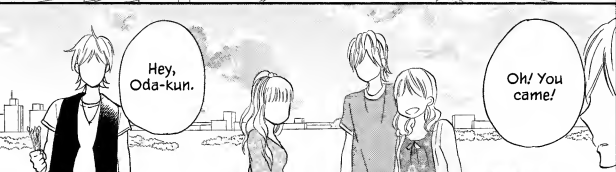
I was
asking
for real.

...I
guess.

It's a
normal
thing to
ask...

Don't you think
your feelings for
Takashi are love?

Why is it
different
for me?





Yeah, they're really annoying about my curfew.

Is that so? Your family is strict.



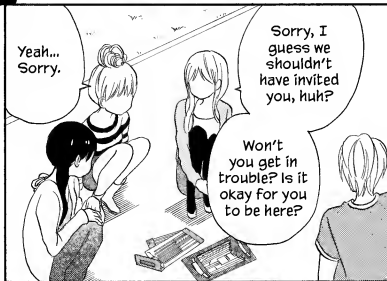
Well, I have to go home at 7:00 PM.

Looks like last year's fireworks don't work anymore, after all.

I wonder how late this party's gonna go.



Huh?



Yeah... Sorry.

Sorry, I guess we shouldn't have invited you, huh?

Won't you get in trouble? Is it okay for you to be here?



Ugh...



That's not what I meant.

I guess it wasn't a good idea to do fireworks.





That's good,
since you
wanted to
be back by
7:00 PM,
anyway.

So...

...you're back
at 5:00 PM?



...



Is there a
new period
drama
starting
up?

That's
what
everyone
said.

That's
not it.



Huh?

Wanna
go out
then,
Mao?



...

And I'm hungry.

Where are we going?

Hey...

This is so annoying.



Fire-works!

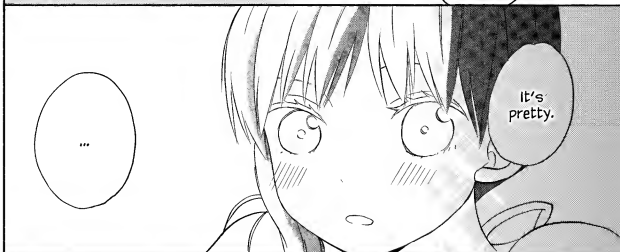




Got
it.



Year-old
fireworks
don't
light up.
That's what
happened
earlier, too.



It's
pretty.

It's not
like I really
wanted to light
fireworks,
though.





I just
wanted
to make
curfew.



You always
make
curfew,
Mao.

CLICK
カ
チッ
カ
チッ
CLICK

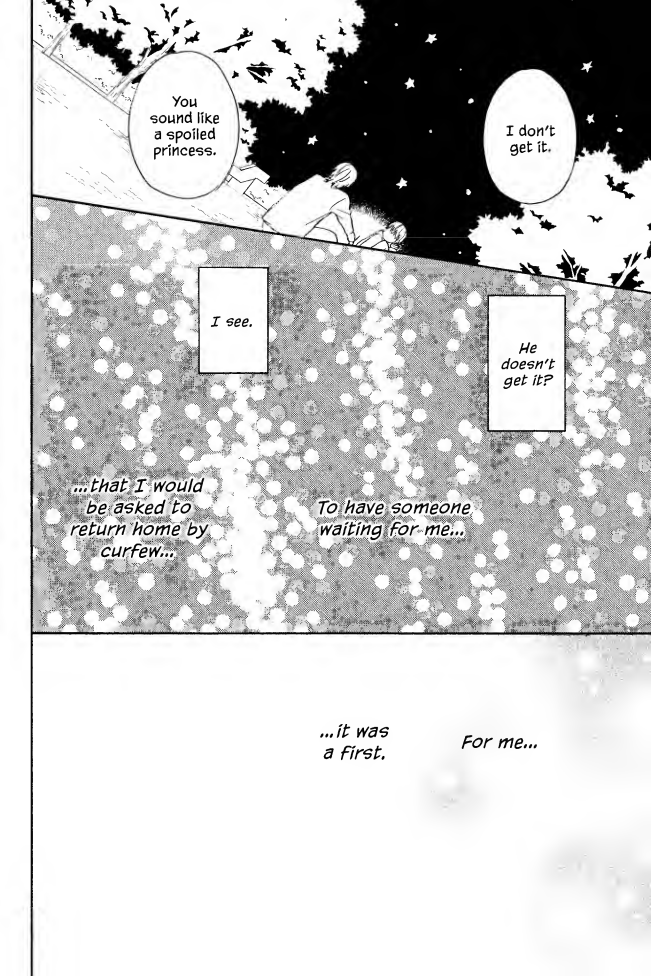


That's
not the
point.



DROP

ぽ
とっ



*You
sound like
a spoiled
princess.*

*I don't
get it.*

I see.

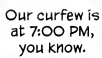
*He
doesn't
get it?*

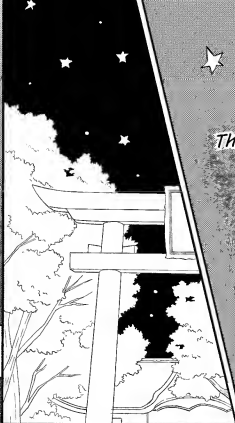
*...that I would
be asked to
return home by
curfew...*

*To have someone
waiting for me...*

*...it was
a first.*

For me...





That's it.

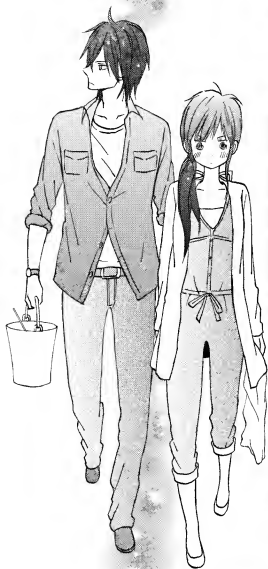


I pray that we all live together happily again.





*So he
doesn't
mind...*



*...having
me around.*



Huh?
Of course
I don't
like that.

*That's
too weird.*

Are you
saying
it's not
annoying
to have
me
around?
And that
it's not
just that
you like
cleaning
up after
me?



Don't
make me
say it
again.

You'll
embarrass
me.

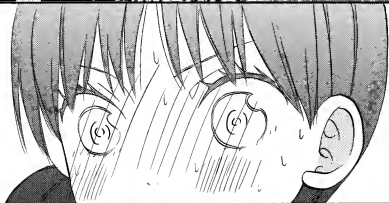


Okay.



It's
dark.

Huh?



...just
because
it's dark
out?



...for two
childhood
friends to
hold hands...

Is it
normal...

Huh?

*...held hands
like this.*

*I think we
always...*

...different?

*...does
it feel...*

...why...

*Yet,
today...*



*I didn't know what
I was feeling.*

Um...

Um...

Um...



...strange.

*Mao
seems...*

*She's even
been eating
all her fish,
something
she hates.*



*...she
just
suddenly
stops.*

*And
whenever
she starts
chattering
away...*



*She
won't
even look
at me.*

*SULK
-n!*

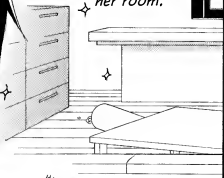


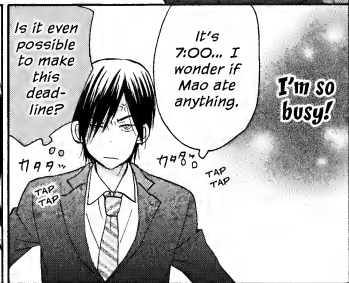
*I have
a bad
feeling...*



*And what's
more,
she's been
vacuuming
her room.*

*It's still a
mess, though*





I can't believe it... She must be weirded out by a man who reads online novels.

It's even worse because I'm really hoping that she's the one writing it!

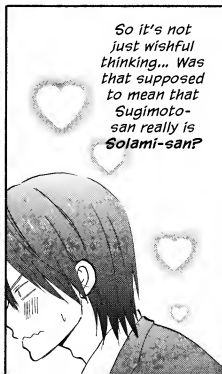
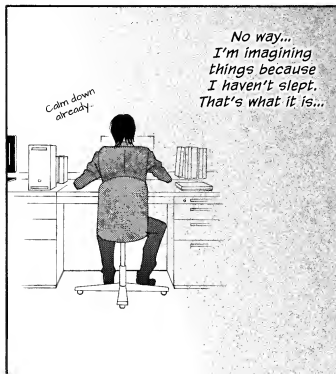
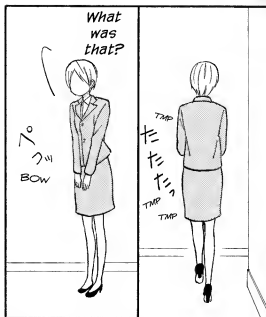
Agh!

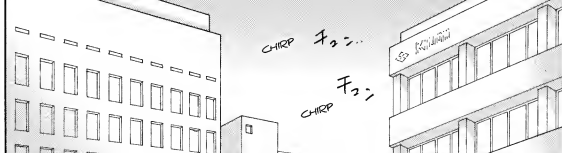
I was reading it for work, but it's surprisingly entertaining.

Did she see it?

Okay! I passed it off as nothing.

?







You just come home to eat and take a short nap, then you're off to work again!

What are you doing making breakfast?

Aren't you super busy?



Good morning.

Breakfast is ready.



I don't think you can, actually.

And I can make breakfast myself.

You don't need to make me a lunch. I can have bread.

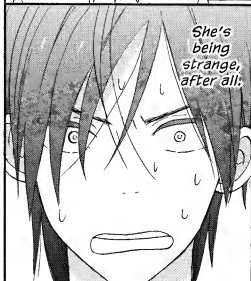


I'm not.

Since when were you so meek?



Well, there's no need for you to force yourself to come home!



*She's
being
strange,
after all.*



I'm just
worried
about
you.

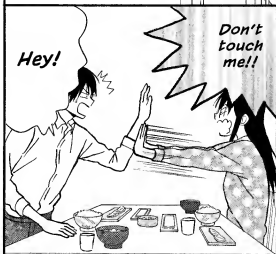
That's
all.



And
making
you lunch
saves on
expenses.

I want to
eat rice, too,
you know.

Just
let me
make it.



Hey!

**Don't
touch
me!!**

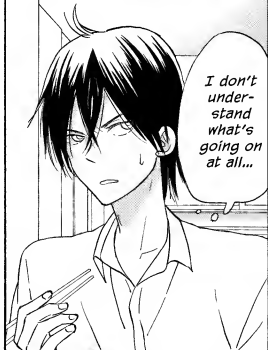


PAT 150w

So don't
worry
about me.



Thanks
for the
food.



I don't
under-
stand
what's
going on
at all...



...



...she's
so bad at
hiding it.

What's
with
her?

When
she
wants
to cry...

Why does
it look
like she's
about to
cry?

*...would
be sad.*

*Not eating
together...*

*We live
together,
after all.*

But I
am.

I hate it
when you
act like
you're
taking
care of
me.

Totally.

RUB
RUB
!!
!!
!!
!!

When
will
they be
back?

It'll get
worse when
Daiki and
Hina come
back here.

You should
admit
defeat for
now.



I don't know.
I want us all to
live together,
but I have no
idea what they
want.

And they've
gotten used
to their
current living
arrangements.



Unless you
tell them
directly...

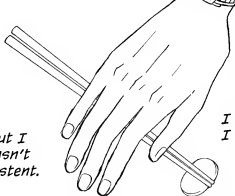
...they
won't know.



That
you want
everyone
to live
together...

Did
you tell
them?





*But I
wasn't
insistent.*

*I think
I did...*

*I just
assumed they
wanted to live
with me, too.*



*Have I
never
told
them?*



Thanks.

It was
delicious.

Thanks
for the
food.



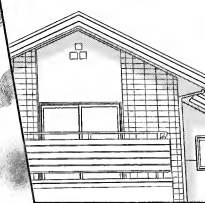
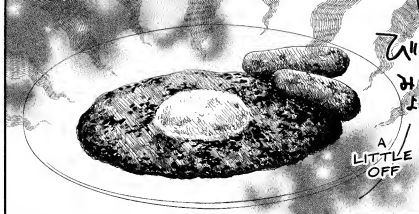
...it's
really...



I didn't
say it
before,
but...

...eating
together
like this...





It's much better this time...!

I made breakfast this morning!

Yeah, but it still looks pretty burnt...



Welcome home!

What's that?

I'm home...



There's more?!

And...



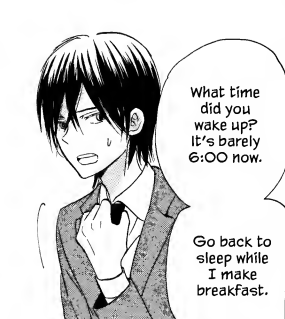
I did the laundry, too.

There's a mess here.



Another mess here.

And I vacuumed...!



What time
did you
wake up?
It's barely
6:00 now.

Go back to
sleep while
I make
breakfast.



So what
part of
this do you
consider a
success?

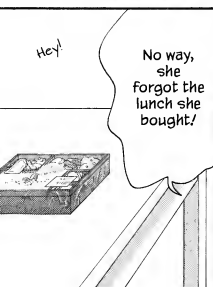
You
should've
just bought
one to
begin with.

I tried
making a
lunch, too,
but it didn't
work out, so
I bought
one.



See
you
later!

Okay,
bye.



Hey!

No way,
she
forgot the
lunch she
bought!



There's
no need...

I'm
already
wide
awake.

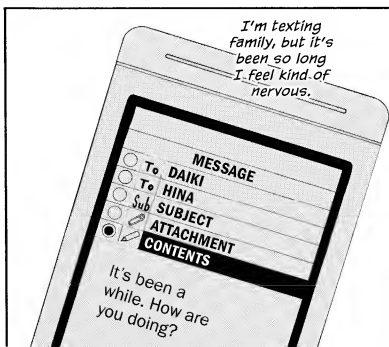
STARE
STARE
ギョ
ギョ

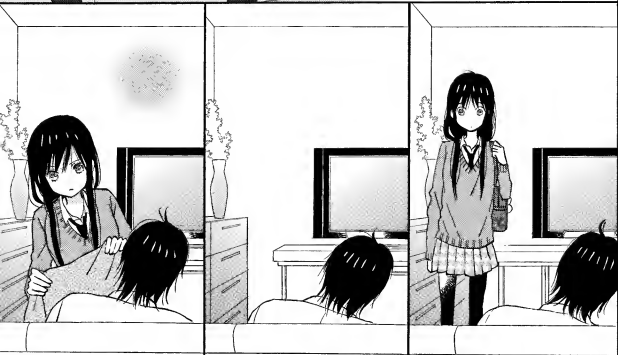
Then
just
watch
me.

...For
her to
do this
stuff.



Just a
little.



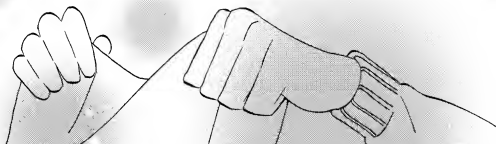


*...or do
anything.*

*...or fry
up eggs...*

*There's no
need to wake
up early...*

It's Fine.



That's why...

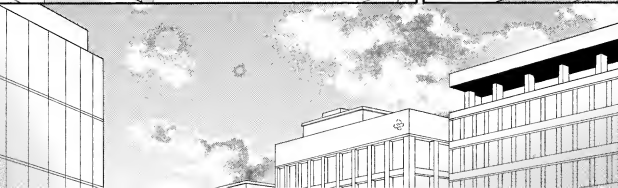
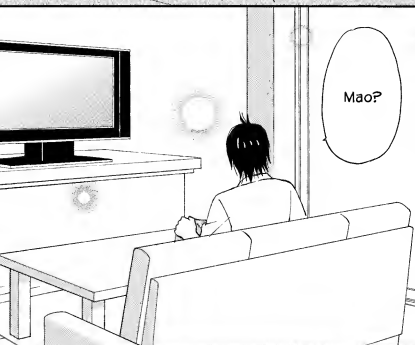
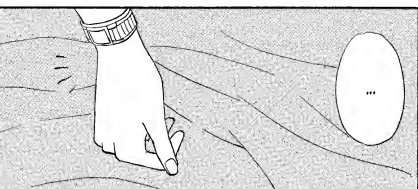
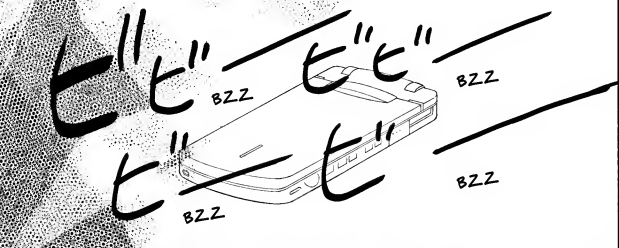
*...is somehow
comforting.*

*Just
having you
around...*

*...I want to
come home.*

*You know
that, right?*







And who knows when the client will ask for something else.

There's a bag check, too, so we can't go home.



Exactly.

That's right, so you can't go home until the first morning train.



I'm so sleepy...

I can't take it... I really can't take it...

I didn't even take a bath yesterday.

My head is itchy



Hey, is it okay if I come back by 8:00?

Huh? Yeah...

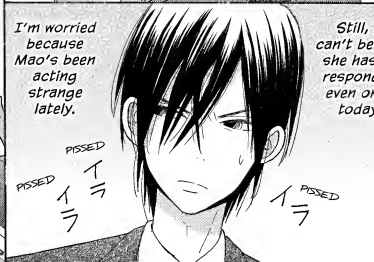


She must get annoyed

That's no reason to text her so much.

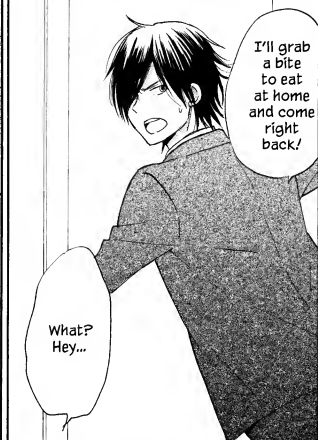
She hardly ever answers.

My little sister can't do anything on her own, so I get worried.



I'm worried because Mao's been acting strange lately.

Still, I can't believe she hasn't responded even once today.





*I better
not
bother
her.*

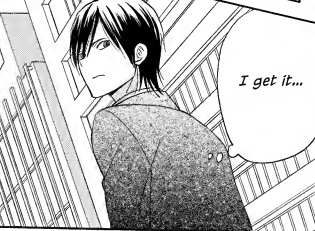
*More
importantly...*

Ma—





**Who's
that guy?**



I get it...

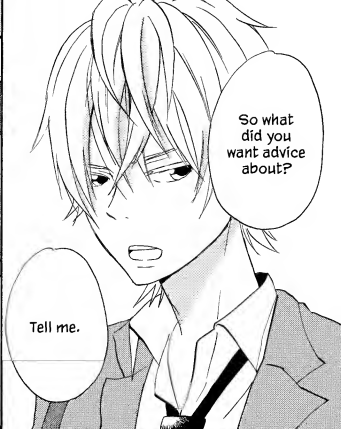


*What's
going
on?*

*I'll go home
before she
notices me.*



*I
should
back
off.*

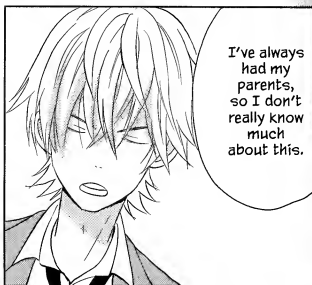






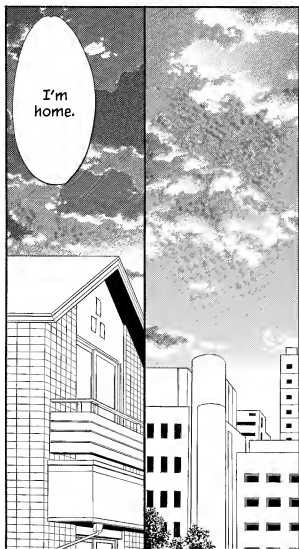
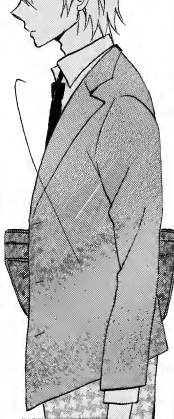
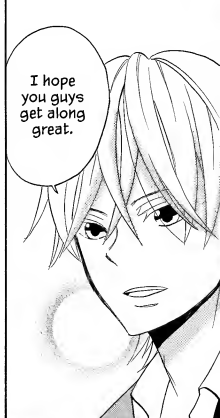
But since it's your mom, it's not a love thing.

It does, huh...



Why don't you just explain it her?







You want me to tell you now?

I'm home!

You should tell me if you're home!

ドキ
BADUMP



Dinner is ready.



Huh? What?



I was worried about you, but...

But since you have a boyfriend, I'm a little relieved.



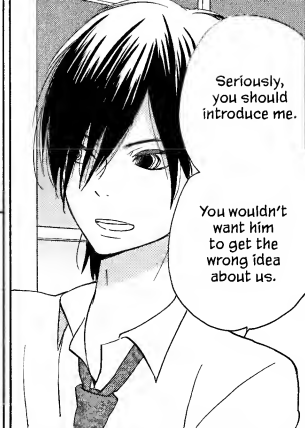
No, I gotta go back to work.

You finished early today?



It's fine if you don't come home.







Huh?!

Huh?





*I mean,
saying you
like me?
Me?!*





...



How about it?

Anyway, are you gonna eat?

It's takeout, though.



I assumed that's how Mao felt, too.



Until now...



What should I do? She isn't talking...

I know!



...I never saw Mao as anything more than a sister.



Not
that...

Aren't
you
weirded
out by
me?



Huh?

If you're
worried about
Daiki and
Hina, there's
still no telling
when they'll
come back.

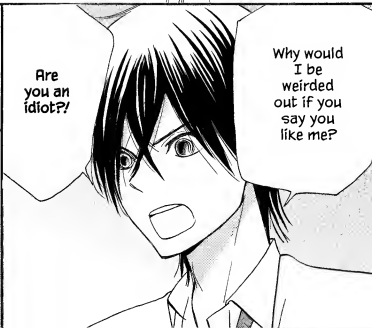


Of course
it's okay.



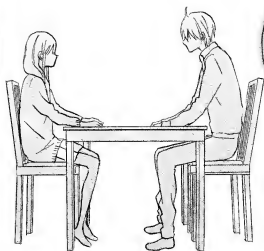
Are
you an
idiot?!

Why would
I be
weirded
out if you
say you
like me?



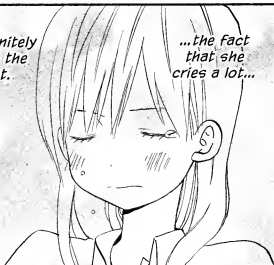
This is the
only place
I can go
home to.

I'm
glad.



...definitely
tops the
list.

...the fact
that she
cries a lot...

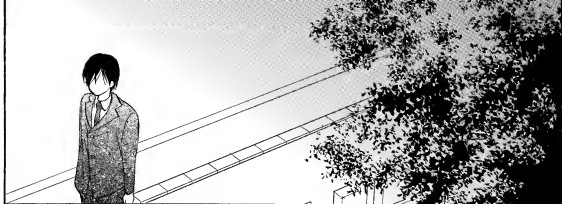


Okay.

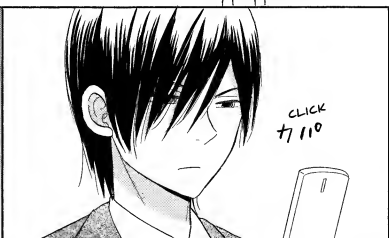
See you
later.



Of all the
things I've
learned about
Mao since she
moved in...



*But I
like you,
Hiro...!*



*What
should I
do now?*

Well, then...

**To be
continued...**



*Even when she
got lost or when
her goldfish died,
she didn't cry.*

*There was once
a little girl who
never cried.*



▲ EXTRA CHAPTER ▲

The Girl Who Never Cried



Mao,
your heart
must be
made of
steel.

*Even when the
only teddy bear
her dad ever
bought her was
ripped, she
didn't cry.*





Oh...

They fight
when I
cry, so I
hold it in.



My mom
and dad...

I always
get told that
I can't walk
around with
it forever.

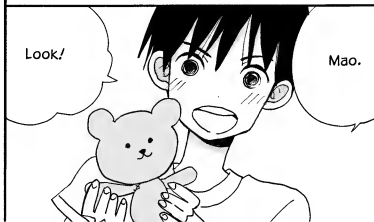
You can
have it,
Hina.



I don't
need this.

*Then one
day...*

*Even if she fell
or was lonely,
she didn't cry.*



Look!

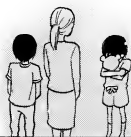
Mao.



...

*But the
little girl
seemed to
be a little
lonely.*





~~~~~  
SQUEEZE

...had  
just been  
released.

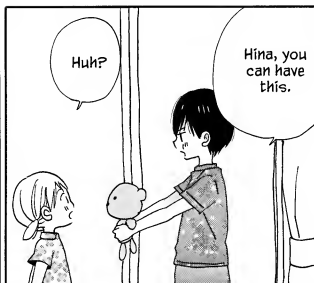
As if a  
plug...

The little  
girl cried for  
a long time.

After  
that...

*And she also  
started to laugh  
a little more.*

*The little girl  
was able to cry a  
little after that.*



*She wasn't  
lonely anymore.*

**End of extra chapter**





I have her wearing a blazer,  
but I also like sailor uniforms.  
I like uniforms.  
And also tights.

Please read the next volume, too!  
-Taamo



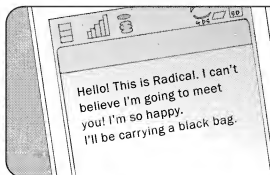
*What happens after Mao tells Hiro she likes him...?*



*She tries to hold back her feelings in order to continue living together, but...*



*She can't hold back her feelings, after all!*



*Confused, Mao goes to meet Radical-san, a reader of her online novel.*

It's not something I can talk about with Chi-chan. It's easier with Radical-san because I don't really know her.

It's the first time I'm gonna talk about love.

*Mao starts to feel a little more at ease...*

# However...!



Hiro's little brother Daiki returns home.

*Is a storm brewing?!*

HOUSE<sup>of</sup> the SUN ☀

Popular right now!



## **House of the Sun 1**

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

House of the Sun 1 copyright © 2010 Taamo

English translation copyright © 2017 Taamo

All rights reserved.

First published in Japan in 2010 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

Electronic Publishing rights for this English edition arranged through  
Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or  
by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

English digital edition published by Kodansha Advanced Media, LLC,  
San Francisco.

[www.kodanshacomics.com](http://www.kodanshacomics.com)

ISBN: 9781682334805

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Translation by Tania Horowitz

Lettering by Noelle Yamagami

Editing by Jesika Brooks

YKS Services LLC/SKY Japan, INC.

